

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

INFO AMCONSUL SALVADOR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, BR

SUBJECT:SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

REF: BRASILIA 2006 , 26 MARCH 1974

1. AS POST AWARE, SMITHSONIAN DISCUSSED PARTICIPATION OF BAHIA DANCE GROUP IN "AFRICAN DIASPORA" THEME AREA OF 1974 FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN FOLKLIFE. BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT WAS INTERESTED BUT PROJECT FINALLY DROPPED BECAUSE OF FUNDING PROBLEMS.

2. SMITHSONIAN NOW EXTENDING INVITATION FOR SIMILAR PARTICIPATION IN 1976 BICENTENNIAL FESTIVAL. COPY OF INVITATION HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT RUBENS RICUPERO, NOW CULTURAL COUNSELOR, BRAZILIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON. OFFICIAL INVITATION WILL BE EXTENDED BY MRS. ROSIE LEE HOOKS, DIRECTOR OF "AFRICAN DIASPORA" PROGRAM, ARRIVING BRASILIA 12 NOVEMBER, 1945 HOURS, VARRIG FLIGHT 221; DEPARTING 14 NOVEMBER. HOTEL RESERVATIONS REQUESTED.

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3. INVITATION PROPOSES GROUP OF 25 FOLK ARTISTS (DANCERS,

SINGERS, MUSICIANS, CRAFTSPERSONS) PLUS ONE FOLKLORIST TO ASSIST WITH CULTURAL PRESENTATION AND ONE TOUR ADMINISTRATOR TO SERVE AS LIAISON WITH AMERICAN TOUR LEADER. BOTH SHOULD SPEAK ENGLISH. SIX AFRICAN AND SIX LATIN

AMERICAN NATIONS BEING INVITED TO PERFORM TWO WEEKS EACH DURING TWELVE WEEK FESTIVAL IN "AFRICAN DIASPORA", APPEARING WITH AMERICAN FOLK ARTISTS CARRYING ON SAME CULTURAL TRADITIONS TO ILLUSTRATE CONTINUITY OF BLACK CULTURE OVER THREE CONTINENTS. BAHIANs TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO PERFORM ON THE MALL AUGUST 8 TO 22 PAIRED WITH NIGERIA.

4. SMITHSONIAN COVERS ALL STATESIDE COSTS INCLUDING INTERNAL TRAVEL, BOARD, LODGING, AND TEN DOLLARS DAILY POCKET MONEY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT. AFTER NINE DAYS IN WASHINGTON, GROUP COULD MAKE TWO OR THREE WEEK TOUR TO JOIN BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS IN FOUR OR SIX MAJOR CITIES BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT BEING ASKED TO FUND ROUNDTRIP AIR FARE TO WASHINGTON AND TO COMPENSATE PARTICIPANTS FOR ANY LOST WORK-TIME.

5. SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE BY CONSULTING FOLKLORIST JAMES EARLY, INSTEAD OF LEONARD GOINES, ARRIVING LATE NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER, TO WORK WITH FOLKLORIST DESIGNATED BY BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT, UTILIZING SOME OF GOINES' EARLIER RESEARCH FOR GUIDANCE.

6. REQUEST USIS MAKE APPOINTMENT FOR HOOKS AND ACCOMPANY HER ON OFFICIAL CALL.

7. SMITHSONIAN MAILING USIS BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON FESTIVAL AND JAMES EARLY BIO DATA. WILL BE VERY GRATEFUL FOR POST GUIDANCE AND COOPERATION. INGERSOLL

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